Increase in the Honorarium of Part-time Attendants in the RFWC

205. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has requested the Government of India to increase the honorarium of part-time attendants working in the R.F.W.C. and its sub-centres from Rs. 50/- p.m. to Rs. 80/- p.m.; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of resource constraints, it has not been possible to accept the proposal for increasing the honorarium of part-time attendants.

Bitting up a Doctor by An other Doctor in P.G.I.MER, Chandigarh

206. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Indian Express of 26th May, 1988 under the caption "Doc bites a Doc" regarding an incident in P.G.I. MER, Chandigarh in which right hand thumb of a surgeon was chewed by another docter and

(b) if se, what are the details in this regard and what action has been taken by the authorities of the P.G.I. MER to ensure that such incidents don't recur?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) and (b) It has been reported by the Director, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Educa-tion and Research, Chandigarh that in an incident on the 7th May, 1988 in the Urology minor operation theatre of the Institute there was a scuffle between two junior doctors undergoing MCH course during which one doctor sustained injuries on right thumb. Both the doctors have apologised for their misconduct and were warned by the Director. The future conduct of the doctors concerned be under close observation.

Launching of National Literacy Mission

207. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether a National Literacy Mission has been launched recently;

(b) If so, what are the main features thereof; and

(c) what is the literacy percentage expected to be achieved with the operation of this Mission by the end of the current Five Year plan period and by the end of the next decade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following strategies will be adopted to achieve the objectives:

(i) Motivation centred programmes will be designed, with special care in regard to their form and content inputs. The programmes will be linked with skill development and economic activities, health related issues, recreational and cultural activities. Attractive learning teaching material will be provided Dedicated and well trained instructors will be deployed. Improved learning atmosphere and good arrangements for continuing education will be ensured.